FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

30 JANUARY 1987

ICO Resolutions; Iranian Criticism

KUNA transmitted the texts of many resolutions adopted by the fifth Islamic summit conference, providing a number of details not contained in the communique read out during the final session. The resolution on the Iran-Iraq war expressed "satisfaction" with Iraq's willingness to accept ICO and UN resolutions, calling on Iran to accept these resolutions and agree to a peaceful resolution of the conflict. A resolution on the camps war in Lebanon strongly condemned the siege of Palestinian camps by Amal militias, "which are backed by Syria," adding that the situation will be discussed at an emergency meeting of ICO foreign ministers in Jeddah. Among lengthy resolutions on the Palestine issue was a statement that all Muslims have a duty to wage "jihad" for the liberation of Jerusalem and Palestine. Other resolutions denounced U.S. support for Israel and condemned the U.S.-Israeli "strategic alliance."

An Iranian Foreign Ministry statement cited by IRNA said the conference decisions on the Iran-Iraq war will have "no effect," while resolutions on the Arab-Israeli conflict "merely aim at pacifying Muslim nations who are disappointed with the inaction and compromising attitude of the reactionary leaders." The ICO's reinstatement of Egypt and its decision to hold the next ministerial conference in Jordan show that it has no intention of making a serious move against enemies of the Palestinian cause, the statement maintained.

Iran-Iraq War

An Iraqi communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio announced raids on Qom, Esfahan, Kashan, Eslamabad-e Gharb, and Ilam 29 January, acknowledging the loss of one Iraqi plane in the attacks. Iraqi planes also raided the petrochemical complex at Bandar-e Khomeyni, according to a statement carried by the radio. An Iranian communique cited by IRNA said that civilians were killed in the attacks on Qom, Esfahan, and Kashan, and the agency subsequently reported that Iraqi planes bombed Shiraz late 29 January and struck at Ilam the following morning. Iranian warplanes hit back with a raid on the Iraqi town of Al-Sulaymaniyah 30 January, according to Tehran radio.

Iraqi reportage on the military situation near Basra included INA reports that Iran has failed to achieve any of its objectives and has sustained 150,000 casualties in its Karbala' 5 offensive. Jordanian King Husayn discussed the situation with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn during a stopover in Baghdad, Amman television reported, noting that the Iraqi leader said his forces are "in complete control" and continue to repulse Iranian attacks.

Regarding U.S. contacts with Iran, the Israeli paper *'Al Hamishmar* cited claims by Iranian opposition sources that such contacts are continuing and that U.S. arms are still being supplied to Iran through private dealers. The paper said the Iranians need new weapons and equipment in view of Iraq's acquisition of new Soviet supplies, which include MiG-29 aircraft.

Lebanon

Hostages Threat — The "Islamic Jihad for the Liberation of Palestine" announced its intention to "immediately execute" the four Beirut University College lecturers in the event of a U.S. attack, AFP reported. The threat was contained in a note to a press agency, accompanied by a photograph of two guns trained on Robert Polhill, one of the kidnapped Americans. On the whereabouts of Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite, Beirut radio cited a remark by Ba'th Party Organization (BPO) leader 'Asim Qansuh that Waite "has not been kidnapped, and he has been seen moving freely in a certain area, accompanied by some of those who are called kidnappers." AFP noted that Waite has been seen on two occasions in the Ba'labakk area of the Al-Biqa' Valley.

Maghdushah Withdrawal — The Palestinians completed their withdrawal from Maghdushah 29 January, the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio reported. Nasirite Popular Organization leader Mustafa Sa'd urged citizens of Maghdushah to return to their town, the radio noted. Beirut radio said that forces of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party, the Lebanese Communist Party, and the BPO have deployed in Maghdushah alongside Sa'd's militia. Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri reaffirmed his opposition to the deployment of such forces in Maghdushah, asserting that this is a "deviation" from the Iranian initiative, which provides for Amal's return to its previous positions in the area, the radio reported. However, Birri urged his commanders to avoid a confrontation with "the nationalist forces and the brothers in Sidon."

Afghanistan

A 24 January mujahidin attack on Soviet-DRA forces in Khowst inflicted over 400 casualties and damaged 45 armored vehicles, Karachi radio reported.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 020 *30 January 1987*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

AFGHANISTAN

Council of Ministers Session Views Issues ..... C 1

INDIA

Malaysian Prime Minister Arrives for Visit ..... E 1
Attends Banquet Hosted by Gandhi ..... E 1
Calls on Giani Zail Singh ..... E 1
Tiwari Urges UK 'To Tackle' Sikh Problem ..... E 1
Ministers Meet Sri Lankan Envoy on Ethnic Issue ..... E 1
PTI Cited on 'Surprise' at U.S. Aid to Pakistan ..... E 1
Punjab Cabinet Condemns Secessionist Call ..... E 1
Akali Dal Faction Opposes Call ..... E 2
Commentator on Steps To Defuse Border Tension ..... E 2

OTHER COUNTRIES

SRI LANKA

'Main' LTTE Base Destroyed in Batticola ..... G 1
Delhi Reports Further ..... G 1
LTTE Hospital 'Captured' ..... G 1

IRAN

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Leads Friday Prayer Sermon ..... I 1
Khamene'i Discusses Human Rights, Domination ..... I 2
'Secret Contacts' With U.S. Said Continuing *[Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR 29 Jan]* ..... I 3
Statement Says ICO Summit Lacks 'Positive Effect' ..... I 3
Majlis Speaker Lauds Karbala' 5 Achievements ..... I 4
Ja'fari Comments on Outcome of Far East Tour ..... I 4
Tudeh Party on Economy, Hypocritical Policies *[Radio of the Iranian Toilers]* ..... I 5
Signs of 'Final Victory' Said 'Obvious' ..... I 6
West 'Alarmed' by Iraqi Chemical Weapons ..... I 6
Reportage on Combat Operations, Karbala' 5, 6 ..... I 6
2 Iraqi Aircraft Downed ..... I 6
Iraqi Aircraft Bomb Shiraz ..... I 7
Further on Attack; Ilam Bombed ..... I 7
Iraqi Centers Shelled in Al-'Amarah ..... I 7
Fighters Bomb Iraq's Sulaymaniyah ..... I 7
Iraqi Plane Downed in Karbala' 6 ..... I 7
'Another' Warplane Downed ..... I 7
Communique No 2,731 ..... I 7
Iraqi Kurdish Peshmerga, IRGC Acts ..... I 8

Council of Ministers Session Views Issues
LD290847 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 27 Jan 87

[Text] A routine plenary session of the DRA Council of Ministers was held today. The status of the realization of the plans and state projects and the bank plans during the 9 months ending 20 March 1987 were assessed at the meeting, and reports in this regard were presented by Mohammad Aziz, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Planning Committee; Minister of Finance Mohammad Kabir; and the first deputy head of the Afghanistan bank and president of the Central Statistical Administration. A large number of ministers, chairmen of the State Planning Committees, and chairmen of the Executive Committee of the councils of people's representatives of the provinces took part in the discussion of topics assessed at the session.

A plan concerning the measures of the Council of Ministers regarding the practical steps and the compilation of documents about the legal and economic basis of national reconciliation in line with the decisions of the December 1986 extraordinary PDPA Central Committee plenum and the announcement of the DRA Revolutionary Council, was presented by Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers Seyyed Amanuddin Amin. The report was broadly discussed.

Guidelines for the creation of the legal and economic basis of national reconciliation and the tasks of the state organs in this regard have been envisioned in this plan, which includes 60 articles.

The session of the Council of Ministers comprehensively discussed affairs relating to the return of our compatriots to the country. A report in this regard was presented to the meeting by Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers Mohammad Hakim. The session analyzed the work of the party and state organs and that of the social organization in connection with the returnees to the country. This method of work has been arranged in eleven chapters and 36 articles in which all necessary facilities for the honorable acceptance and reaccomodation of the returning compatriots to the DRA have been envisioned. Also, the tasks of the party and state organs for giving necessary and humane assistance to the returnees have been specified.

A number of legal documents were discussed in today's Council of Ministers session. Mohammad Bashir Baghlani explained these documents to the meeting and a number of ministers expressed their views about them.

Chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand spoke in detail at today's session concerning these issues. He said: Dear comrades, the routine plenary session of the Council of Ministers today has been held under conditions when our party, the PDPA, has put forward important plans with a courageous, revolutionary, but however, realistic character for the politico-social life of our country. Thus, necessities and time have put before us new issues.

The (?matter) of reconstruction of the socioeconomic areas and the decisions of the extraordinary December 1986 PDPA Central Committee plenum, the second congress of the DRA National Front, and the Supreme Extraordinary Commission of National Reconciliation, in which specific measures on the most important demand of our persecuted people, that is the policy of national reconciliation, was put forward, have transformed the present into a time for responsible, serious, critical, and important work in the political, economic, and social life of our country.

The adoption of policies and new approaches in connection with national reconciliation is a logical response to the needs of time and the needs of the people in the present phase of society's evolution and the revolutionary process in the country. While imperialism and regional reaction, led by the U.S. Administration, desire the continuation of tension in and around Afghanistan, and organize conspiracies and war against our people and country, we put into practice the policy of national reconciliation and reached a national accord which has met with the serious support of our people and our friends in the international arena. The warm welcome and support of our people for the policy of national reconciliation and for an important step towards it — that is the cease-fire — has opened the way for national peace and lasting security in the country. Of course, we have a very difficult path yet before us. However, we will travel it successfully.

Comrades, at the present difficult and critical moments when the reconstruction of the economic and social areas of our country and the maintenance of nationwide peace lies before us, the cooperation and assistance of the Soviet Union, the true friend of the people of Afghanistan, has increased. The convocation of the sixth session of the Permanent Commission of Economic Cooperation between the DRA and the Soviet Union in Mizan, and the participation of the high ranking Soviet delegation headed by Comrade Murskhovskiy in that session, have assured us that we enjoy the ever-increasing cooperation of the Soviet Union in the area of the economy.

In addition to 120 projects that have been brought to fruition, in accordance with the basic guides of the DRA's socioeconomic development for 1986-1990, we will build some 130 new projects through the Soviet Union's assistance.

It has recently been agreed that new assistance amounting to 40.36 million rubles will be rendered for the construction of a number of very important projects in the areas of irrigation, agriculture, and other important spheres.

With the friendly visit by the high ranking party and state delegation of the DRA to the Soviet Union, headed by PDPA Central Committee General Secretary Comrade Najib, a new phase in our fraternal relations has begun. And the recent visit to the DRA by Comrade E. Shevardnadze, CPSU Central Committee Politburo member and USSR minister of foreign affairs, and Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Anatoliy Dobrynin, are counted as important events in these relations.

The sincere affirmation by the Soviet Union of our national reconciliation policy which opens the way to maintain security and peaceful conditions for the work and lives of our people, is an outstanding example of friendship and revolutionary solidarity with the people of Afghanistan. The great Soviet assistance

of grant-in-aid, is the sign of the USSR's sincere sympathy for our people and its wish for their betterment.

Friendship and cooperation between the DRA and the Soviet Union knows no limits and is successfully expanding. I would like once again to express my deepest gratitude for the selfless, timely, and all-round assistance of the Soviet Union to our country and people.

The participation of the DRA delegation, including myself, in the 42d CEMA session held in Romania, has created new possibilities for the expansion of relations and economic cooperation between the DRA and the member countries of that council. Recently a cooperation agreement between the DRA and CEMA, which had been previously outlined by the DRA Council of Ministers, has been signed. During the visit it was agreed that long-term commercial agreements with a number of socialist countries should be concluded on the basis of cash payment. Mutual economic cooperation between the DRA and individual members of the CEMA should be assessed.

Comrades, we discussed in today's plenary session of the Council of Ministers questions which are of specific importance in the economic, social, and political life of the country. The results of implementing the socioeconomic development plan and the state budget during the 9 months of 1365 [ends 20 March] indicate that the state administration organs have carried out relatively effective work in this regard. The realization of a number of measures taken by the Council of Ministers, has played a considerable role in these successes. The better organization of affairs in some state establishments and the further participation of the toilers' collectives of the country's institutes under the influence of the recent decisions of the party Central Committee in connection with reconstruction and the speeding up of the process of the national economy's growth, is counted as an effective factor in the realization of the planned tasks.

In this regard I would like to outline a number of results of the work during the 9 months of 1365 in the area of the implementation of the state plan and budget:

The plan for industrial production of the state and mixed sector has been realized by 105.7 percent, which indicates a growth of 10.8 percent as compared to the same period last year. From among 17 ministries and departments in charge of implementation of the plan of industrial products, 15 ministries and departments have succeeded in implementing and over-implementing the plan. Surplus industrial products with a value of 750.4 million afghani have been produced.

The plan for production of electrical energy has been realized by 104.4 percent; (?condensat) and gas, 133.2 percent; chemical fertilizer, 119.2 percent; reinforced concrete, 104.6 percent; concrete, 126.1 percent; [word indistinct] mix, 139.8 percent; reinforced concrete pylons, 176.3 percent; bricks, 100.6 percent; medicine, 106 percent; textiles, 100.1 percent; flour and wheat, 107.7 percent; bread and bakery products, 110.8 percent; meat, 125.1 percent; walnuts, 149.2 percent have been realised.

A total sum of 7.7 billion afghani has been spent on the construction of basic buildings from internal revenues, which shows an increase of 1.6 billion afghani, or 26 percent, as compared to the same period last year.

Work on Afghan-Soviet projects is successfully continuing and at the time of this report, a sum of 4 billion afghani or 52 percent of domestic funds has been spent on these projects. During the length of the period under discussion approximately $121.4 million from the loans and financial and technical assistance of the Soviet Union have been utilized in the development projects, which represents 81.5 percent of total foreign assistance utilized.

During the 9 months of 1365, a number of development projects have been put into operation which will play a valuable role in the country's future national economic growth. These projects include: the opening of the project of 110 kv transmission line between the Soviet border and Konduz, which enjoys great social and economic importance because it supplies the state establishments and inhabitants of Konduz Province and then Baghlan and Takhar Provinces with electrical energy; putting into operation the unit of (?condensat) refinery at an annual capacity of 4,000 metric tons, 2 months before the planned time. With the coming into operation of this unit, a great part of the needs of the gas and oil extraction projects in the north will be met.

The opening of the internal flights terminal of Kabul International Airport and the liquid gas station of Kabul, are of great importance. Necessary assistance has been rendered to peasants in cooperatives and state farms through the supply of chemical fertilizer, improved sowing seed, pesticides, veterinary services, and agricultural machinery.

The status of the state retail trade has improved and an increase of 1,570 billion afghani has occured in the circulation of the state retail trade, mixed trade, and cooperative trade, as compared to the same period last year.

[Words indistinct] of the state budget during the 9 months of 1365, has been realized by 102.59 percent, which shows an increase of 1.086 million afghani more than planned.

Considerable improvement has been made in the areas of education and training, higher and vocational education, public health, radio, television and cinematography, culture, and social security, and questions concerning the eradication of illiteracy have been continually tackled. Specific measures have been taken toward accepting pupils in the new education system and also toward the enrollment of school age children.

Comrades, the aforementioned figures that reflect the effective activity of the toilers' collectives and the improvement of organization in implementing state plans by the organs of the state administration, are praiseworthy for the effective work and activity of the collectives that succeeded in carrying out the tasks entrusted to them in time. The [word indistinct] departments also exist in all organs of the state administration in implementing the state plans. It is hoped that the productive establishments that have not completed their plans, will learn from the experiences of the advanced establishments.

The chairman of the Council of Ministers stated: The convocation of the extraordinary broad plenum of the month of Decem-

ber 1986 of the current year, was a very great important issue in the life of the country. The destructive war that has been continuing for the last 8 years in our country, has imposed on our country, in addition to human losses, disabilities, and the creation of a disturbed atmosphere, the [word indistinct] economic blows on our country. As a result of the undeclared war a number of our production establishments were paralyzed. A number of the public utility establishments were destroyed or their activities stagnated. A gigantic amount of money was spent on the war or on the repair and revival of establishments, buildings, and public utilities. Great amounts that we could have spent on the creation of new production institutes and on improving people's lives, were spent solely on defense and its reconstruction, defense plans and their reconstruction.

Also, our party realized that the people are tired of war and bloodshed. They desire peace and security. They want a peaceful and tranquil life, and social security. Therefore the people warmly welcomed the policy of national reconciliation. The unilateral cease-fire and offer of honorable proposals to those who stood against their compatriot brothers and also a series of other measures in connection with general amnesty and disregarding loans, the [word indistinct] of responsibility and nonprosecution of individuals for their past deeds, has created a high morale and an atmosphere of trust.

Comrade Keshtmand said: It should be said that the DRA Government, immediately after the convocation of the December 1986 extraordinary broad PDPA Central Committee plenum, began to study ways to solve and implement the national reconciliation policy in practice and took a series of measures.

In its meeting of 7 January, the Executive Committee of the Council of Ministers comprehensively studied the further growth of mutually beneficial relations between the state and private investors, and economic measures on the basis of the needs of the expansion of the social pillars of the revolution in accordance with the resolutions of the December extraordinary PDPA Central Committee plenum and Resolution No 199 was issued in this regard.

In the resolution of the Council of Ministers, the plan of measures for the further growth of mutually beneficial relations of the state with private national investors, for the purpose of increasing the production of consumer goods and the elimination of other needs of the people, was approved.

The permanent commission of the Executive Committee of the Council of Ministers in private investment affairs was created for utilizing the possibilities of the [word indistinct] of the private sector in the growth of the national economy and the solution of relevant issues. A central administration for the encouragement and expansion of private investment under the Council of Ministers was formed for the purpose of organizing the activity of the establishments of the private sector and the maintenance of mutual cooperation between the state administration organs with the private sector. In addition, in accordance with the decisions of the December PDPA Central Committee plenum, a central department under the Council of Ministers concerning the return of our compatriots and the commission of coordination of affairs relating to the return of the compatriots, was also created.

Concluding, the chairman of the Council of Ministers said: The executive committees and the councils of people's representatives of the provinces are dutybound to welcome the returnees and transfer them to their places of residence. Facilities for their education and work should be provided for them. The fundamental tasks concerning education and training, health, and other social services for the returnees, are to be shouldered by the Executive Committees.

Serious measures should be taken so that the nomads can benefit from national reconciliation. Also, the precise statistics of the returnees and their transfer to all localities should be organized by the executive committees of the provinces.

The BIA correspondent adds that all topics discussed in the routine plenary session of the DRA Council of Ministers, were unanimously approved.

Malaysian Prime Minister Arrives for Visit

BK291544 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 29 Jan 87

[Text] The Malaysian prime minister, Dr Mahathir Bin Mohamed, arrived in New Delhi this evening to a warm welcome. He was received at the airport by the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, and the external affairs minister, Mr N. D. Tiwari. The prime minister is hosting a dinner in honor of the visiting dignitary tonight. Dr Mahathir, who is on a 3-day official visit, will call on the president and the vice president tomorrow. He will have talks with the prime minister in the evening. The talks are expected to cover bilateral economic cooperation and developments in the region. Bilateral trade and the Kampuchean issue are likely to be discussed.

Attends Banquet Hosted by Gandhi

BK300459 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 30 Jan 87

[Text] India and Malaysia have called for strengthening regional economic cooperation that would eventually lead to a new international economic order. Speaking at a banquet given in honor of the visiting Malaysian prime minister, Dr Mahathir Bin Mohamed, in New Delhi last night the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, said there is a growing economic cooperation between India and Malaysia and this has to be developed to its full potential. Mr Gandhi said as littoral states of the Indian Ocean, India and Malaysia have a joint responsibility to resist and reverse the trend of increasing military rivalry in the Indian Ocean. He regretted that the Indian Ocean continues to be an arena of increasing military rivalry despite the United Nations declaring it a zone of peace 15 years ago. The prime minister commended Malaysia's initiative in setting up a (?South) commission headed by Tanzanian leader Dr Julius Nyerere to study the development problems of the Third World.

Speaking on the occasion, the Malaysian prime minister extended his country's full support to India in its efforts to ease global tension and bring about a more equitable economic order. Dr Mahathir Bin Mohamed said Malaysia and India should work together to strengthen international solidarity against apartheid in South Africa and Israel's illegal occupation of the Arab lands. Praising the achievements of South Asian countries in making regional cooperation under SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation], Dr Mahathir said the ASEAN countries look forward to constructive cooperation with SAARC in the near future.

Calls on Giani Zail Singh

BK300921 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 30 Jan 87

[Text] The Malaysian prime minister, Dr Mahathir Mohamed, called on the president, Giani Zail Singh, at Rashtrapati Bhavan [president's house] today. Their meeting meeting lasted about 1/2 an hour.

Tiwari Urges UK 'To Tackle' Sikh Problem

BK300355 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 30 Jan 87

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr Tiwari, has urged the British Government to tackle the problem of Sikh extremists with determination. Mr Tiwari made this request during his meeting with the former British prime minister, Mr Heath, in New Delhi yesterday. Mr Tiwari said under its existing laws the British Government could stop the Sikh extremists from using religious places.

Ministers Meet Sri Lankan Envoy on Ethnic Issue

BK271305 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 27 Jan 87

[Text] The Sri Lanka high commissioner, Mr Tilakaratna, met the minister of state for external affairs, Mr Natwar Singh, and the minister of state for home, Mr Chidambaram, in New Delhi today. The talks related to the negotiations for finding a political solution to the ethnic issue in Sri Lanka and how the process can be moved forward.

PTI Cited on 'Surprise' at U.S. Aid to Pakistan

BK290943 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 29 Jan 87

[Excerpts] The outgoing U.S. ambassador to Pakistan, Mr Deane Hinton, has indicated that Pakistan is going ahead with its nuclear weapon program. [passage omitted]

PTI reports from Islamabad that diplomatic observers are surprised that, despite the U.S. suspicion of the Pakistan's nuclear program, President Reagan gave a clean chit to Islamabad, which would enable it to get a $4 billion U.S. economic and military aid for the coming 6 years.

Punjab Cabinet Condemns Secessionist Call

BK271625 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 27 Jan 87

[Text] The Punjab cabinet has strongly condemned the endorsement of a secessionist call by militants in the Golden Temple complex yesterday. In its meeting in Chandigarh today, the cabinet warned that the government will not remain a silent spectator to such secessionist and seditious declarations. In a resolution, the cabinet called upon the people of the state to remain united and defeat the antinational forces who are out to destabilize the unity and solidarity of the country.

The cabinet also expressed concern at the provocative deployment of troops by Pakistan on the Punjab border. It appreciated the effective and timely measures taken by the center to meet the situation.

The chief minister, Mr Surjit Singh Barnala, who is also president of the Akali Dal, has convened an emergency meeting of the party's working committee to discuss the latest situation.

The state Congress-I has urged the party high command to review the question of continuing support to the Barnala government in view of the extraordinary situation prevailing in the state. A resolution to this effect was adopted at a joint meeting of the party executive, the district congress presidents, MP's, MLA's [members of the legislative assembly], and the heads of party cells in Chandigarh today.

The PCCI [Pradesh — state — Congress Committee-I] president, Mr Beant Singh, presided. Referring to the hoisting of half-burnt national flags at some places in the state on the Republic Day yesterday, the resolution said no government could ignore such an act.

The resolution welcomed and appreciated timely action by the center on defending the western border by deploying the Armed Forces.

Akali Dal Faction Opposes Call

BK300449 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 30 Jan 87

[Text] The breakaway group of Akali Dal led by Mr Prakash Singh Badal has expressed its opposition to the secessionist call. In a resolution adopted at an emergency meeting of the party in Chandigarh yesterday it reiterated that Sikhs are a part of the Indian union which they help to create through untold sacrifices. [sentence as heard]

Commentator on Steps To Defuse Border Tension

BK291405 Delhi General Overseas Service in English
1340 GMT 29 Jan 87

[Political commentator H.C. Bhatt: "De-escalating Tension"]

[Text] India's efforts to defuse the situation of tension on the common border with Pakistan have been continuing alongside the defensive action by her in the past few days. Fortunately Pakistan responded to the Indian invitation for deputing senior-level negotiator for immediate talks to de-escalate the military preparations on the border. Its foreign secretary, Mr Abdus Sattar, a former ambassador to India, will be in New Delhi tomorrow to talk things over with the acting foreign secretary, Mr Gonsalves.

When India first sounded the warning that the Pakistani troops were massed on the border on the 19th of this month, it was not taken with [the] seriousness it deserved. Based on briefing of some editors by the Defense Ministry in New Delhi, reports of an alarming presence of not only the Pakistani Army but also the Air Force close to the border appeared in the Indian media. They spoke of a near total mobilization in border positions. Even mines were being laid and ammunition stocked. These were all signs of an imminent offensive action.

If India media reports did not seem to register on Pakistan, then at his press conference in the Indian capital on the 29th, the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, was asked by a Pakistani newsman whether these reports were just propaganda; the prime minister's reply was a firm no. He said that the border exercises by the Pakistani forces had caused tremendous concern and that, contrary to the practice in previous years, the troops had not gone back to their peace-time station after the exercises.

India did not retaliate so as not to escalate tension. Mr Gandhi told the news conference that India had given Pakistan prior information on the once in 3 years exercises done by her defense forces. Even at that stage, he indicated that India had been in touch with Pakistan and some other countries to find out why Islamabad had not pulled back the troops after the exercises were over. Apparently there was no response which would convince this country that the Pakistani intentions were peaceful. Only 4 days later that [as heard] India announced that it had also sealed the border with Pakistan in the Punjab sector and the Army formations there had been moved into forward defensive positions along the border. This was at the time when the Pakistani forces had crossed the River Sutlej, which in this sector is a few kilometers from the Indian border.

All along, the Pakistani troops had been right on the border, but when the Indian forces moved forward to the border posts there was some kind of an outcry in that country. This did help to bring into focus the fact of the mobilization on the Pakistani side. In any case, India lost no time to ask Pakistan to de-escalate the build-up along the border and also briefed the envoys of the two superpowers, with one of whom Pakistan has close military ties. Machinery exists between India and Pakistan for consultations and exchange of information even at the level of the military headquarters to avoid precisely such escalations.

India made use of this machinery too. Unfortunately, Pakistan did not respond in time and could not allay the Indian concern over the tense situation along the Punjab border. This could have prevented the Indian build-up along the border. The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, spoke to the Pakistani prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, and conveyed to him India's desire to defuse the tension if only Pakistan responded suitably. Mr Gandhi also spoke to the Egyptian president, Mr Mubarak, who was in Kuwait for the Islamic conference. Mr Gandhi told him that India was doing everything possible to de-escalate the build up and asked him to inform General Ziaul Haq, the Pakistani president who is also in Kuwait, of India's keenness to defuse the crisis.

Pakistan's cricket team is now in India and has begun a most interesting 2 months tour. A master musician from India, Ustad Bismillah Khan, is now in Pakistan playing on the mast instrument — the Shahnai — to full houses. India has even invited General Ziaul Haq to come to India sometime in March and witness one of the 1-day international matches between the two cricket teams. These are all indications that the Indian action on the border is only a preventive measure. The talks beginning tomorrow in New Delhi can lead to good results if there is reciprocal goodwill.

SRI LANKA

'Main' LTTE Base Destroyed in Batticola

BK291151 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 29 Jan 87

[Text] The main base of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam [LTTE] in the Batticaloa District, situated in the jungle of Kokkadichcholai, was destroyed by the security forces yesterday. The death toll among the terrorists was high. According to the Media Center, 20 terrorists died and many were seriously wounded. Six security forces' personnel were killed in a landmine explosion nearby. A number of forces' personnel was also wounded. The Media Center announced that a few civilians, who were caught in the crossfire, were severely wounded or killed. The security forces have also destroyed two smaller camps belonging to the LTTE in the vicinity of Kokkadichcholai. They destroyed the radio VHF link that was used by the terrorists. A large haul of arms, ammunition, bombs, landmines, military ware, and several vans, LTTE identity cards and literature were recovered by the security forces. Some of the literature contained details of the lamp post killings committed by the LTTE. The Media Center also stated that a security forces' camp has now been set up Kokkadichcholai.

Another 89 Sri Lankan Tamil refugees returned from south India to the Talaimannar pier on the northwest coast on Tuesday. The Media Center in Colombo told LANKA PUWATH that they included 34 men, 30 women, and 25 children. The refugees are being handed over to the government agent for resettlement.

Delhi Reports Further

BK291607 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 29 Jan 87

[Text] In Sri Lanka, security forces have taken complete control of the western shore of Batticaloa lagoon in the biggest ever military operation launched against Tamil militants in the eastern part of the island. Over 2,000 uniformed men in a joint operation by land, sea, and air are in the process of entrenching themselves in the area on the 2d day today after destroying what an official spokesman described as the Batticaloa District headquarters of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam.

The spokesman claimed at least 21 militants were killed, while the security forces lost 14 men. Independent sources, however, told our Colombo correspondent, Plabon Majumder, that at least 50 civilians were killed in the 2-day operation. Eyewitnesses said trucks carrying dead bodies were being driven toward the security forces' camp. The dead were being burned to leave no trace of identity. A large number of bodies are still lying in the marshy lands. At least 20,000 civilians living in the cluster of 15 villages around the operational area of Kokkadichcholai have fled to the jungles. At least 14 people, who escaped the strict security cordon thrown around the area, said a large number of buildings and houses have been set ablaze. Helicopters strafed the civilians fleeing their villages in panic. They also complained that civilians have been used as a human shield by the security forces. This was strongly refuted by the official spokesman. The spokesman told our correspondent that security forces are now in the process of consolidating their gains.

LTTE Hospital 'Captured'

BK300911 Colombo LANKA PUWATH in English 0756 GMT 30 Jan 87

["LANKA PUWATH/OANA Pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Jan 30 (LANKA PUWATH) — The field medical hospital at Kokkadichcholai, Batticaloa District, eastern Sri Lanka run by the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam which was captured by government troops yesterday had been forcibly [word indistinct] by the LTTE from a small time farmer and converted into a makeshift hospital, the Media Centre in Colombo told LANKA PUWATH. The field hospital was situated on the eastern edges of the forest bordering a swamp adjoining the lagoon. There were two beds and a number of stretchers in this LTTE hospital.

Earlier, the security forces recovered a large stock of medical supplies from the hospital. The owner of the building had told the security authorities that he was forcibly ejected and he had to occupy a mud hut. The owner is a Sri Lankan Tamil of the area.

All approach roads to the village was [as received] booby trapped or mined. On information given by the residents, security forces defused the booby traps, recovered some mines, and exploded the others. Two elf vans and two motorcycles, one of them belonging to a farmer was found in the jungle.

The kangaroo court of the LTTE was housed in another building close to the eastern marshes. A mock-up court room had been arranged and one room had been stacked up with files, documents, and sworn statement of witnesses.

People of the area state that the marshy land was used as a convenient burial ground by the LTTE.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Leads Friday Prayer Sermon
LD301334 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 30 Jan 87

[Text]On the eve of the blessed 10 Days of Dawn and the dispatch of the great Corps of the Holy al-Mahdi [hidden imam] — may Allah almighty hasten his noble advent]— to the battlefronts our Muslim compatriots throughout the country observed the political-religious Friday prayer rites today.

Tehran University and the surrounding thoroughfares witnessed a vast attendance by the various segments of the people who observed the Friday prayers under the imamate of Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani. During today's Friday prayers in Tehran, held in the presence of farsighted people and participants in the Conference of Islamic Thought, Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council, devoted the second sermon to the situation on the battlefronts and the recent victories of the Muslim combatants in the victorious Karbala'-5 offensive and said: The Muslim combatants' victories in the Karbala'-5 offensive are extremely remarkable and now Saddam's supporters and friends are wondering whether Saddam can remain or not!

The imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council, pointing out that Islam's troops by breaching the defensive lines and fortifications of the forces of the Zionist enemy in the Karbala'-5 operational theater have secured a firm foothold in Shalamcheh and northeast of Basra, said: We were willing for the Iraqi Army to remain and, after reforming its main elements, to assist the Muslims along the path to occupied Palestine. However, that army is not serving Islam, and the Iraqi Ba'th Party, thanks to its blasphemous, anti-Islamic ideology, is employing the Iraqi Army to bar the path of popular, antiarrogance and antireactionary force in the region and to prevent the setting up of any obstacles in Israel's path. The Iraqi Ba'th Party has dealt the biggest blow to the front of steadfastness and solidarity, and the nature of that party and that of the Iraqi Army in its attack on Iran are perfectly clear and obvious. We are compelled to wrest this sword from the hand of the Iraqi Ba'th Party so that the Muslim Iraqi nation, with our help, can continue along its path.

Describing the shaky position of the forces of the Zionist enemy in the extremely sensitive, strategic Shalamcheh region and east of Basra the representative of the imam to the Supreme Defense Council said: In Shalamcheh we will advance whenever we wish and destroy the Iraqi forces. Between yesterday and this morning the Iraqi regime brought into action six brigades in that region, but this morning only five or six tanks remained for the last armored brigade of the six mentioned. The commander of the Iraqi brigade has said that his unit commanders are not obeying his orders and that he is incapable of resisting and advancing in the region.

Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani added: Of the existing 192 brigades of the Iraqi Army, so far some 120-125 brigades have been dispatched to the Karbala'-5 operational theater where Islam's combatants dealt such heavy blows to 53 Iraqi brigades that these brigades have left the area. We have also taken POW's from 60 Iraqi brigades. So far and at present the Iraqi regime has less than 70 brigades on other frontlines, and several Iraqi brigades are knocked out of action daily, thanks to Islam's combatants. The downing of more than 70 Iraqi aircraft during this offensive has created major problems for the Iraqi regime.

Referring to the raids carried out by aircraft of the Iraqi regime against our country's population centers, the imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council said: The Iraqi regime has resorted to the basest weapon, that is, the bombing of our civilian population in our country's cities which is a cause for regret. We are forced to retaliate in kind, and this tit-for-tat will cost Iraq even more. Presently, 25 cities and 4 townships in Iraq are within artillery range of the Islamic forces. But we do not want to see the continuation of the war of the cities. Our main task is on the fronts, and we shall do everything we can in order to reduce the blows arising from the Iraqi regime's air raids on our cities. The government has set up an active staff command in this connection and the people, too, should endeavor as far as they can to set up the necessary air raid shelters for themselves.

Continuing his second sermon and referring to the dispatch of the great Al-Mahdi Corps — may Allah Almighty hasten his noble advent! — during the blessed 10 Days of Dawn, the imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council said: Now, when, as admitted by our friends and foes alike, crushing blows have been dealt to the Zionist enemy; when our forces on the battlefronts are enjoying conditions for continuing the battle; and when the glint of victory is shining in the eyes of Islam's combatants, this is the best opportunity for our volunteering young men to join the ranks of the great Al-Mahdi Corps so that we, by destroying Iraq's military machine, which is Saddam's prop, can attain our goal.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani, in his first sermon during today's Friday prayers in Tehran, referring to the forthcoming 10 Days of Dawn and the anniversary of the Islamic revolution of Iran, said: Our revolution has been instrumental in bringing that subservient country, the day-to-day problems of which were even influenced by the decisions of the U.S. and British Embassies, to such a phase in the present time that it's moves cause the relocation of the pawns and the changing of the system of the U.S. superpower. Informed commentators now maintain that Iran's moves have a worthy effect on both East and West. The reason for this lies in the popular nature of our government, so that we can now see that the responsible authorities of the Islamic Republic and their relatives occupy the first rank of the martyrs!

The speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly said: Were it not for the problems of the war we could now provide you with immense figures and statistics on our economic and development progress. Nevertheless, the services — particularly in the countryside — carried out during this period despite wartime difficulties are unique in their own right, so that even our opponents have endorsed this.

In connection with the power and presence of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the world arena he said: The world today is taking a serious account of our country and Islam. For instance, just during these 2 days the Kuwait conference, which we did not attend, ended its work without making any serious decision and

thereby proved the nonsensical reason for its own convention. This is because the King Hasans and Husayns and Mubaraks no longer can be as important as in the past, and there is nothing much they can do anyway.

Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, referring to the power of Islam and its influence after the Islamic Revolution of Iran, said: We are now witnessing a great many changes on world level. In Turkey the issue of Islamic dress has been raised: In Pakistan anti-United States demonstrations take place; and many millions of Soviet Muslims, who used to account for nothing whatsoever, now mean something — they have not been able to dismember Lebanon thanks to the power of Islam. The Islamic Revolution has caused arrogance a great deal of problems on a world level. In Afghanistan, the Soviet superpower has not been able to achieve anything, since it is confronted by Afghan Muslim mujahidin.

Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani, concluding his first sermon, said: All our problems and difficulties in reaching our objectives are worth our efforts, since our people now are not living in order to sleep and eat. Even if we were all hungry there would not be any problem, since our path is wide open and clear and we are masters of our human identity!

Khamene'i Discusses Human Rights, Domination

LD292021 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1030 GMT 29 Jan 87

[Report on speech by President of the Islamic Republic of Iran Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i on 29 January at a conference of Islamic scholars and thinkers from Iran and abroad — with portions recorded]

[Excerpts] On the eve of the 8th year of the victory of the Islamic Revolution and the blessed 10-days of dawn, a conference composed of Islamic scholars and thinkers from the Islamic Republic of Iran and from abroad was opened in Tehran this morning with a speech by President Seyyed 'Ali Khamane'i. [passage omitted on conference chairman's welcome]

In his speech, President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i described the issue of human rights as one of the most critical, most basic, and most controversial issues facing humanity. Stressing the need for the study of this issue by the Muslim ulema, he said: Despite the attention paid by the modern world to this issue during the past few decades, ever since its inception Islam has paid attention to this matter and this is something which can clearly be seen in all Islamic works.

Continuing his speech, in discussing the degree of success of humanity in achieving human rights, the president said: The study of present realities in the world would make it clear to any informed and just person that these efforts have so far been unsuccessful. We cannot accept the claims of those who say that they support human rights while the bitter realities in Africa and Asia, the hunger of millions of people, and the deprivation of various nations stare us in the face.

Referring to the fact that in the world today there is sovereignty of capital and sovereignty of power, the president criticized the United Nations and its role in achieving the rights of the world's nations, and said: Today, in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, you can witness these oppressions. Even in the advanced countries you can witness racial discrimination, while the United Nations is acting merely as a church, a preacher, and under the influence of the superpowers.

The chairman of the Supreme Cultural Revolution Council added: The rulers and politicians who speak eloquently about human rights in international organizations are no more sincere than their predecessors and one cannot see any honesty in their words. The aim of those who composed the declaration of human rights was not to achieve the rights of the deprived. Their motivation was to achieve domination and control over the same deprived people. What has been presented to the world in the name of human rights has been presented within the framework of a false order; that order is the order of domination and tyranny. Today the world is divided into two groups — the dominants and the dominated — both of whom have accepted the prevailing order, and this is the greatest fault and shortcoming in the present condition of the world.

The president added: Ever since its establishment and because the Islamic Republic of Iran did not accept this order of domination, it has been subjected to the most intense political, economic, and military pressures.

Referring to the violation of the rights of human societies by the superpowers through their domination of the world economy, culture, politics, and international law, Khamene'i said: Today the violations of human rights by the superpowers are readily tolerated. Today, the invasion of Grenada, attacks on Lebanon, and the massacre of its Muslim people by Israel — which is being supported by the United States — the violation of the rights of blacks by the racist South African Government, and U.S. attacks on Libya are more easily accepted than the protests of a person who has reached the end of his tether due to injustice. In the culture of domination words also assume the meanings forced upon them by the culture of domination. Today, attacks on Libya or threats against Nicaragua and such are not regarded as the clearest examples of terrorism.

The chairman of the Supreme Cultural Revolution Council described the solution as being a return to Islam and to divine inspiration, and said: Today the duty of the Muslim nations is to revive the Koran and the establishment of Islamic thinking. Through reliance upon Islamic thinking, Islamic nations should stand up to the bullying by the superpowers; this is one of the consequences in the experiences of our revolution, which is at the disposal of all nations. Today, the Islamic Republic of Iran can claim to be free from all bullying and domination. Our Islamic Revolution inherited a bankrupt policy, a collapsing economy, and a decadent culture. As a result of its independence and self-reliance and by making use of its own human and material resources, it has succeeded in defining the course of its political, economic, and cultural movement by rejecting domination. In our view, Islam embodies the most accurate and the most subtle principles regarding the rights of individuals and societies. Only under a sublime ideology will the nations be able to achieve those

rights. Islamic governments will also be able to follow this path, provided they pay no need to great powers. Unfortunately, however, this is not so. Some Islamic governments are under the domination of the superpowers.

Referring to the current conference in Kuwait, the president said: We see that this conference, instead of discussing the most important issues of Islamic nations, is occupying itself with marginal issues. Instead of condemning the Iraqi regime for aggression against another Muslim country and expelling her [from the ICO], they merely limit themselves to expressing a cold and meaningless invitation to peace, without realizing that a nation's defense of its rights is praiseworthy. Of course, their decisions are invalid. These decisions are so removed from realities, from Islamic principles, and from the wishes of nations, that Islamic nations are indifferent toward them. This is because many regimes in Islamic countries are under the domination of the superpowers. So long as the fear of the superpowers is in the hearts of these governments, the affairs of Muslims will not be settled.

Concluding his speech, the president expressed his hope that the results of this conference [in Tehran] will guide Islamic nations toward becoming aware of Islamic issues.

'Secret Contacts' With U.S. Said Continuing

TA290904 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew
29 Jan 87 pp 1, 17

[Report by Middle East Affairs correspondent 'Uzi Mahanaymi]

[Text] London — CIA personnel conferred with Iranian officials in Switzerland and Algeria this month as part of the secret contacts the United States and Iran began holding last December in spite of Secretary of State George Shultz' objections — sources close to the Iranian opposition organization "Mojahedin-e Khalq" told our correspondent in London yesterday. At the same time, private arms dealers have been transferring U.S. equipment and weapons to Iran this month. This refers mainly to spare parts for aircraft and other weapons originiating in West Germany and South Korea.

The contacts between the CIA personnel and the Iranians revolved around the continuation of talks between the two countries, and the Americans once again asked for Iranian assistance in order to release the hostages held captive in Lebanon. The Iranians posed three basic conditions: continuing the arms shipments, lifting the freeze on Iranian funds kept in the United States since the days of the shah, and U.S. assistance in securing the release of the Shi'ite terrorists held in Kuwait.

Our correspondent points out that despite the fact that official contacts between the Iranians and Americans would seem to make no sense at a time when the arms deal affair is raging in the United States, both sides have a supreme interest in holding these meetings. The Iranians are at a critical point in their war with Iraq and need equipment and weapons, particularly in view of the Soviet airlift to Iraq that began in early December 1986. The Soviet shipments to Iraq included the advanced MiG-29 jet fighter.

Despite the arms scandal, the Americans for their part realize that now more than ever they can attain influence over the ayatollahs in Tehran. The cordial attitude shown toward the Americans arriving in Tehran lately indicates that rumors about contacts held between the United States and Iran this month are apparently well-founded.

Statement Says ICO Summit Lacks 'Positive Effect'

LD301141 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
0430 GMT 30 Jan 87

[Iranian Foreign Ministry statement issued 29 January 1987]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful.

The Fifth Islamic Conference Organization Summit ended its work at a time when it was unable to adopt a resolution that was in any way positive or effective. The trend which began in Casablanca toward strengthening the front of compromise with the Zionist regime, in contradiction to the ICO's raison d'etre and all its resolutions, was made official in Kuwait.

The presence of the head of the Egyptian regime at that session and his glorification by Kuwait set the basis for a profound and fundamental deviation from the ICO's first principles and the genuine aspirations of the Islamic world. Although the session counselled those countries planning to establish relations with the Zionist regime to revise their decision, the fact that it admitted Husni Mubarak and decided to hold the next ICO foreign ministers session in Jordan — whose ruling regime, as one of the brokers of Zionism has committed the most heinous crimes against the Palestinian people, and by its secret meetings with the authorities of the regime occupying Jerusalem has paved the way for imposing Camp David on the Arab world — demonstrates that the session has no intention of carrying out any serious action against the enemies of Palestinian aspirations as the (?official voice) of the Islamic world. The hackneyed resolutions issued in this respect were purely aimed at neutralizing the wrath of those Muslim nations that became disillusioned at the inertia and compromise displayed by the heads of the reactionary countries and who consider the solution as lying in continuous and comprehensive struggle against the regime occupying Palestine and the destruction of that cancerous tumor in the region.

With regard to the imposed war, too, as predicted by the authorities of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and thanks to the open support expressed by the conference chairman for the aggressive Iraqi regime, the resolutions and stances adopted by the conference failed to produce the least positive effect.

The session's indifference to the Iraqi regime's barbarous aggression against the Islamic Republic of Iran — a country that, following the victory of the revolution and thanks to its efforts to apply Islamic laws and tenets in all areas and aspects of its social, political, economic, and cultural life, has been turned into the world's most genuine and strongest example of an Islamic system — and its inability to condemn the war crimes of the Saddam regime, which is guilty of using chemical weapons, of attacks on passenger airliners, of raids on population centers, and of massa-

cres of innocent people in the cities — even during the Kuwait session — are indicative of the fact that the aim behind the session was not to deal with the problems and difficulties of the Islamic world, but rather to end the conference without much ado and issue a lame resolution as a manifestation of its success.

The session skimmed through the big powers' interference in the affairs of the Islamic countries, the occupation of Muslim lands by the superpowers, including Muslim Afghanistan by the USSR, and the trampling underfoot of the sovereignty of the Muslim people of that country over their destiny. The unfavorable atmosphere dominating the conference did not permit even the slightest discussion of the presence of the superpowers, led by the United States, in the Persian Gulf region, which constitutes a serious threat to the security and stability of the region, and which is an issue of serious concern to a great many neutral countries interested in peace.

The Islamic Republic of Iran seriously believes that so long as the Islamic Conference and the member countries are unable, through their reliance on genuine Islam and on their own nations, to embark on an immediate all-round reaction to the harm and blows dealt at the organization, the problems of the Islamic world will remain insoluble and without remedy. The only path to revive Islam's glory and greatness lies in the forces of the Islamic countries embarking on an all-round restructuring and mobilization in order to reestablish the unity of the Islamic world and launch a decisive struggle against world arrogance and international Zionism.
[Signed] The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Majlis Speaker Lauds Karbala' 5 Achievements

LD291907 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian
1630 GMT 29 Jan 87

[Text] The self-sacrificing warriors of the 10th Seyyed ol-Shohada Division, comprising Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and mobilization fighters with the strength of 10 battalions from Tehran and Karaj, who had taken part in the victorious Karbala' 5 offfensive and returned to Tehran after scoring remarkable victories, once again left for the battlefronts of light against darkness in order to defend Islam and the Koran this afternoon.

According to a Central News Unit report Mr Hashemi-Rafsanjani, attending the auspicious rally of these combatants opposite the Islamic Consultative Assembly, began by placing wreaths round the necks of the division's commanders and extolled their acts of self-sacrifice. Then in a speech, extending a welcome to them on his own behalf and that of Majlis deputies, said: Those sensitive moments when the Karbala' 5 offensive began, according to information which your humble servant has, constituted a time when one of the most difficult and sensitive segments of the enemy's line was assigned to your division; and the area broken through in Shalamcheh, thereby opening a path for the entry of forces behind you and breaching the enemy's redoubts, constituted an immensely great task which will enjoy a lofty position in the annals of war when they are written.

Mr Rafsanjani said: The task that you, dear people, accomplished in the Karbala' 5 offensive, whereupon these groups of the victorous units of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, mobilization and Holy War, the forces supporting the Army, and the rest of the popular forces which fought side by side with and supported you, all in all will have extremely valuable results for future history, particularly in the region and above all in your own country; and it is too early for us to assess these results properly.

The imam's representative to the Supreme Defense Council said: Continuing the task is more important than starting it, but what I beg to inform you in these ceremonies here is that continuing this great task you have begun and have gone half way toward accomplishing and making full use of breaching the enemy's fortified lines is worthy of attention today; and the forces of the other combatants and you yourselves must be employed in order to make full use of breaching the enemy ranks and lines so that we might — God willing — bring the enemy to his knees in that very region.

Continuing his speech the speaker of the Islamic Consultative Assembly said: We are precisely poised on the threshold of taking advantage of our 6 and 1/2 years of Holy War today and the fruit of the endeavors which spilled Holy War is about to burgeon forth today. This bloody rose garden, created for history thanks to personalities such as yourselves, is about to bring forth its fragrant flowers on the eve of the 10 Days of the Dawn of the Islamic Revolution for the benefit of this beloved nation, which has supported you. This sprouting forth depends on the rest of the combatants and those forces ready for battle making appropriate use of this important opportunity gained, and fortunately, thanks to the plan for setting up the great holy Mahdi corps, proposed for the 10 Days of Dawn, the ground has been fully prepared to utilize your endeavors and the fruits of the blood of your martyrs. We expect, thanks to the vast presence of battle-hardened, martyrdom-embracing, and self-sacrificing young men along the path of Islam, to be able to take a bigger stride toward making the current operations even more destiny-shaping. God willing, in the near future we shall witness the downfall of the 'Aflaqite Ba'th Party, the liberation of the Iraqi nation, the coordination of the two great nations of Iran and Iraq, and the opening of the path of Holy War for the liberation of Palestine. You, our dear ones, are the vanguard forces of this revolutionary, Islamic movement.

Ja'fari Comments on Outcome of Far East Tour

LD292054 Tehran IRNA in English 1950 GMT 29 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 29, IRNA — Iranian Commerce Minister Hasan Abedi-Ja'fari termed his 12-day visit to Malaysia, Indonesia, and Thailand as fruitful. Ja'fari, who left Tehran for the said countries on January 17 at the head of an eco-political delegation, returned home Thursday.

Talking to reporters upon his return here, Ja'fari said the delegation has signed an agreement with Thailand for the purchase of 60,000 tons of rice.

Explaining the outcome of his visit to the afore-mentioned countries, the Iranian minister added that his delegation has also

signed a trade agreement, a letter of understanding, and four trade contracts with Indonesian officials. The purchase of caoutchouc, tin, and other necessary goods is foreseen in these contracts.

He said that, during their visit to Indonesia, they inspected the rubber and paper industries in that country, and he expressed hope that economic relations between the two countries would be expanded.

On the visit to Malaysia, Ja'fari mentioned that their talks have resulted in the signing of a trade agreement between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the host country. This agreement included the purchase of caoutchouc, tin, wood, and several other goods.

Further on the talks with Thai officials, the commerce minister said that the main objective of this visit was aimed at following up the recently signed letter of understanding between the two countries in Tehran.

Tudeh Party on Economy, Hypocritical Policies

LD291122 (Clandestine) Radio of the Iranian Toilers in Persian 0230 GMT Jan 87

["First part" of statement issued by the Tudeh Party Central Committee entitled "Recognize the Important and Critical Conditions of the Present Time and Organize the Revolutionary Struggle of the Masses"; date and place not given — read by announcer]

[Text] The national conference of the Tudeh Party of Iran, in its analysis of economic, social, and political conditions, emphasized the issue of intensifying the crisis besetting the structure of the society and the regime's political instability. Recent events in Iran have proved the correctness of the Tudeh Party's analysis. The implementation of a subservient capitalist system, a lack of programs, the continuation of the destructive war, and the big drop in the price of oil have placed the regime on the threshold of complete economic bankruptcy.

The transfer of state-owned factories to the private sector, and the strategy of open markets, financial, and fiscal shortages, increasing the level of indirect taxes, the auctioning of the country's mines, the shortages of domestic goods, and an inability to cover the amount of money being printed not only have not solved any of the economic and social difficulties, but on the contrary, have greatly intensified the crisis our society faces.

Meanwhile, the imperialist conspiracy for reducing the price of oil and the reduction in the country's foreign exchange reserves have brought the regime many problems. In view of the fact that 90 percent of the country's foreign exchange earnings are provided through the sale of crude oil and in view of the fact that the sale of oil constitutes 98.5 percent of the country's exports, one can see the backwardness of the national economy, which has been inherited from the former regime.

Despite their promises after the Bahman 57 revolution about achieving economic self-sufficiency, the leaders of the Islamic Republic have not introduced any changes in the country's economic policy and have faced society with a crisis, causing millions of our compatriots to struggle with its consequences. The regime's financial bankruptcy has forced the country's factories to close one after another, and for tens of thousands of workers to be expelled or laid off and to join the multimillion army of the unemployed.

The antinational policy of the regime in the agricultural economy has intensified the mass migration of farmers who have lost everything to bigger towns, and has led to an unprecedented increase in unemployment, poverty, homelessness, and the family disintegration.

Under such conditions, the regime, in order to escape from this crisis, has further strengthened the position of the big dependent capitalists, the result of which will be their greater control over the country's economy and policies. The proposed government budget bill for the year 1987 [starting 21 March] in which the country's private sector has been entrusted with the task of investing in and profitting from development projects in all infrastructure economic fields for the first time in recent history, reveals the treason of the leaders of the Islamic Republic concerning national interests. Even now, one can see that this matter will further widen the existing gap between poverty and wealth and will further accelerate social and class contradictions in society.

Undoubtedly, the reactionary policy of continuing the imperialist-inspired war — which has been imposed upon the people of our country by Khomeyni and his followers — is one of the reasons for the intensification of a comprehensive crisis facing the country. At the moment, more than 50 percent of the country's current expenditure is devoted to the war. According to government figures, since the start of the war more than 6 years ago, military expenditure alone has exceeded 473 trillion rials [as heard] and this, in turn, has delivered a heavy blow to our national economy; in fact, this figure is much less than the actual expenditure.

In addition to millions of killed, wounded, crippled, captured, or homeless, the war has destroyed hundeds of towns, villages, and tens of industrial and power plants, and thousands of farms, the cost of which is estimated at hundreds of billions of dollars.

The slogan of 'War, war until victory' of the regime is in full accord with the stratergy of U.S. imperialism and her NATO allies in the Middle and Near East. One of the aims of imperialism is the further weakening of both countries involved in the war and the expansion and strengthening of imperialism's military, economic, and political bases in the Persian Gulf.

As one of the biggest countries situated in the oil-rich Persian Gulf which has a common border with the Soviet Union, Iran has always been one of the geopolitical and strategic goals of U.S. imperialism and its allies. The continuation of the debilitating war — which is one of the wishes of the United States — has acted as a means for imperialism to regain its lost position in our country. The hidden contacts of the leaders of the Islamic Republic with U.S. imperialists and Israeli Zionists is the clearest result of the domestic and foreign policies of the regime.

In order to get closer to U.S. imperialism, whose pratical consequence would be assistance to Israeli Zionists, the regime has resorted to terrorism and oppression and to the current wave of savage suppression of revolutionary and democratic forces. One manifestation of this policy of suppression is the new attack on the Feda'iyan-e Khalq organization, the majority, and the intensification of torture and supression of political prisoners, including the detained Tudeh members and the ever-increasing number of verdicts for execution and long prison terms.

The visit by McFarlane to Iran and the revelation of the covert relations between the leaders of the Islamic Republic with U.S. imperialism and its strategic ally, Israel, removed the veil from the regime's hypocritical policies both at home and abroad and revealed the true features of Khomeyni, the main architect and guide of the Islamic Republic's policies. The regime, which in order to continue the war hypocritically talked about the conquest of Jerusalem through Karbala' by misusing the religious beliefs of the people, was secretly busy colluding with the aggressive U.S. imperialism through Israel's mediation.

The revelation of these secret deals proved the correctness of the Tudeh Party's appraisal about the danger of U.S. imperialism as the real enemy of Iranian masses and the major perpetrator of the war between two neighbouring countries. The sale of advanced military equipment and spare parts to the Islamic Republic and providing Iraq with weapons and military intelligence obtained by means of satellites and radar is a clear example of the policy of U.S. imperialism in fanning the flames of the war. In fact, the expansion of relations with the United States is the sign of the complete bankruptcy of the regime in continuing the war and its inability to deal with the daily increasing economic and social crisis.

Signs of 'Final Victory' Said 'Obvious'

LD291608 Tehran IRNA in English 1538 GMT 29 Jan 87

[Text] Sari, Mazandaran Prov., Jan 29, IRNA — Iran's Muslim combatants do not need to liberate any important area in Iraq in order to pave the way for the final victory, said Deputy Commander of Basij Forces of the Islamic Revolution's Guard Corps (IRGC) Br Akhavan here Thursday.

Speaking at a seminar [of] provincial Basij commanders, Akhavan cited the extent of damage wrought on the Iraqi war machine during the recent operations. The downing of 68 Iraqi warplanes and total destruction of 28 elite Iraqi brigades in the course of [the] Karbala'-5 offensive reveal the sensitiveness of the operational theater and the resounding defeat the Iraqi forces suffered, he said.

Signs of the final Iranian victory are already obvious on the horizon and world public opinion has realised that the aggressor should be identified and denounced, said the Basij official.

Referring to opinions of world military experts on the deteriorating situation of the Iraqi forces in their fight against the Muslim combatants during the past month, Akhavan expressed hope that the fate of war would be determined by the crushing blows of Iranian forces in the Karbala'-5 operational region, in the near future.

On Iraqi crimes in bombing Iran's residential areas, Akhavan said, the high spirits evidenced in damaged Iranian cities reveal the firm will of the Iranian nation to end the war victoriously by ousting the Iraqi ruler. "Saddam has increased his atrocities while he is living on borrowed time" he added.

According to Akhavan the despatch of the 100,000-strong Mahdi (A.S.) Corps is aimed at dealing the final blows on the tottering Iraqi Army.

West 'Alarmed' by Iraqi Chemical Weapons

LD292109 Tehran IRNA in English 0930 GMT 29 Jan 87

[Text] London, Jan 29, IRNA — Western nations, alarmed by the Iraqi regime's deployment of chemical weapons, are seeking an agreement to restrict the supply of materials necessary for their production.

Iraq has persistently resorted to use outlawed poison gases in the war it is waging against the Islamic Republic. Of the most recent Iranian casualties, 51 were flown to West Germany on January 19 for treatment, where since it is reported several have died. Chemical weapons' deployment was banned in 1925 following revulsion of the first use of poison gases in Europe during the First World War, which accounted for 1 million casualties.

In recent years, the Iraqi regime has been seen as the principle violator of the treaty. The Islamic Republic has documented over 80 chemical attacks on its forces and inhabitants, since Baghdad launched its warfare in 1980. Three UN reports in 1984, 1985, and 1986 have verified Iraq's continual use.

According to the *International Herald Tribune* Tuesday, Iraq's use of chemical weapons has "frightened Western countries," who are seeking further talks to control chemical shipments. Some 18 nations, under the leadership of Australia, are expected to meet later this year to pursue preliminary discussions in 1986.

The talks are seen as a more practical recourse than the current negotiations on disarmament in Geneva, where it questioned if the outlawing of chemical weapons could be effective even if an agreement is reached.

By its continual defiance even in the face of global abhorrence, Iraq has been exampled to suggest that a world-wide ban is unlikely ever to be achieved.

Reportage on Combat Operations, Karbala' 5, 6

2 Iraqi Aircraft Downed

LD291556 Tehran IRNA in English 1535 GMT 29 Jan 87

[Text] Khatem ol-Anbiya' Hqs., Jan 29, IRNA — Two more Iraqi warplanes were shot down over Karbala'-5 operational region by the anti-aircraft fire of Iran's Muslim combatants Thursday. The enemy planes, which attempted to bomb positions

of the Iranian forces in the region, were downed at 10:45 and 13:36 GMT.

The number of Iraqi aircraft downed over the Karbala'-5 theatre since the operations began 20 days ago, has now reached 71.

Iraqi Aircraft Bomb Shiraz

LD300600 Tehran IRNA in English 0541 GMT 30 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 30, IRNA — Iraqi planes bombarded a residential quarter in the southern city of Shiraz, capital of Fars Province, late Thursday night, martyring a number of civilians. Scores of people were injured and a number of homes and shops were damaged.

Further on Attack; Ilam Bombed

LD300919 Tehran IRNA in English 0857 GMT 30 Jan 87

[Text] Ilam, Jan 30, IRNA — Several residential quarters here were bombed by Iraqi planes Friday morning. A number of homes and shops were damaged in the raid.

Meanwhile in Thursday night Iraqi attack on Shiraz, a mosque, the historical-cultural center of "Khan school" were damaged.

The area hit by Iraqi planes was a lower class neighbourhood, near the holy shrine of "Shah Cheragh" (AS).

Iraqi Centers Shelled in Al-'Amarah

LD300910 Tehran IRNA in English 0856 GMT 30 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 30, IRNA — Industrial and economic centers in the Iraqi city of Al-'Amarah were shelled Thursday in retaliation for Iraqi attacks on Iranian residential areas. Heavy damage and losses were inflicted on the centers.

Fighters Bomb Iraq's Sulaymaniyah

LD301053 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 30 Jan 87

[Text] The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran has announced: At 0815 today fighter planes of the Air Force of the Islamic Republic of Iran heavily bombed military and industrial installations in the Iraqi town of Sulaymaniyah. After inflicting heavy losses and damage they returned safely to their bases.

Iraqi Plane Downed in Karbala' 6

LD292005 Tehran IRNA in English 1945 GMT 29 Jan 87

[Text] Karbala'-6 Operational Region, Jan 29, IRNA — Another Iraqi warplane was shot down over here by the air-defence units of Iran's Muslim combatants Thursday afternoon. The enemy plane crashed near Sumar, and there is no report immediately available on the fate of its pilot. This brings to 10, the number of Iraqi aircraft downed over this operational region since the successful Karbala'-6 operations began on January 13.

Elsewhere, over the Karbala'-5 operational region, seventy-one other Iraqi jet fighters have so far been downed. The number of enemy warplanes, downed over the two operational regions by the Iranian defenders, has now reached 81 [figure as received] during the last 20 days.

Meanwhile, the Baghdad regime admitted Thursday evening the downing of one of its warplanes. Tehran had earlier announced Thursday morning, the downing of a Sukhoi-22 bomber over the Karbala'-5 theatre, adding that the plane's pilot was captured.

The Iraqi rulers normally acknowledge the downing of those planes, the pilots of which are captured by Iran's Muslim combatants.

'Another' Warplane Downed

LD301101 Tehran IRNA in English 1045 GMT 30 Jan 87

[Text] Khatem ol-Anbiya' Hq., Jan 30, IRNA — Another Iraqi warplane was shot down by Iranian anti-aircraft fire in the Karbala'-6 operational theater in the western fronts Thursday. It was the second Iraqi jet fighter downed in the Karbala'-6 operational theater on Thursday. There is yet no immediate report on the fate of the plane's pilot.

Communique No 2,731

LD291633 Tehran IRNA in English 1618 GMT 29 Jan 87

[Text] Tehran, Jan 29, IRNA — Iraqi forces sustained heavy casualties and damage Thursday when positions and rallying points of their armoured units in the Karbala'-5 theatre were bombarded by Iranian Air Force fighter planes, according to a military communique released here Thursday.

Joint Staff Communique Number 2,731 also added that Iranian long-range artillery fire inflicted extensive damage on military-economic installations in the Iraqi cities of Basra, Zurbatiyah, Banmil, Badrah, Khanaqin, Mandali, Douleh-sour [name as received], Halabjah, Khurmal, and Sulaymaniyah during Wednesday and Thursday.

Exchange of fire between the two sides in the southern fronts raged heavier in the operational regions of Shalamcheh, Kushk, Faqqeh, and Talaiyeh where the superior fire-power of Iranian combatants silenced enemy fire inflicting more losses upon Iraqi armoured forces. Fifteen Iraqi personnel carrying vehicles in the Yabis theatre were subjected to Iranian fire, which destroyed some of them.

The communique further said that the Iranian Muslim forces have continued their successful operations in the Karbala'-5 theatre, gaining new victories as well as successively smashing enemy forces.

In the western and northwestern fronts, tank and artillery fire of the Iranians silenced enemy tank fire, halting all movements of

Iraqi troops. Several enemy tanks and heavy vehicles and three look-out posts were destroyed in these regions.

Iraqi warplanes bombarded residential areas of the cities of Esfahan and Kashan and the holy city of Qom martyring or wounding several civilians Thursday, concluded the communique.

Iraqi Kurdish Peshmerga, IRGC Acts

LD271908 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Jan 87

[Text] According to a report by the Central Staff Command of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC], simultaneous with the convening of the Kuwait conference and in order to unmask the anti-Islamic and anti-human nature of the Iraqi ruling regime, Iraqi combatant groups have embarked on fresh military actions against the Iraqi regime deep inside Iraqi territory. The Iraqi Kurdish Hezbollahi Peshmergas, with the collaboration of the forces commanded by Ramadan headquarters, the centre of irregular operations of the Ground Forces of the IRGC, in recent days succeeded in occupying the (Qora Sur) base within the Margeh Sar district office in Sirwan region and after redeploying on the Margeh Sar Diyanah highway, blew up a Ba'thist Army vehicle, killing or wounding all its passengers. Using light and medium weapons they also succeeded in attacking the defensive bases around the [words indistinct] dam, killing or wounding a number of troops stationed there. During this action, a number of foreign mercenary experts engaged in work there were forced to flee from the scene.

The Hezbollahi Peshmergas carried out surprise attacks on an important intelligence base of the Ba'thist regime at (Alanah Bridge) and also on a combat engineering base headquarters 3 km west of Diyanah, killing or wounding large numbers of troops stationed at these two bases.

Infiltrating into the city of Irbil, the Iraqi Kurdish Hezbollahi Peshmergas succeeded in blowing up a vehicle carrying a security colonel and in wounding him.

A mine which had been planted on the highway leading to (Alanah Bridge) blew up a military vehicle, killing or wounding all of its passengers.

The Peshmergas from the Patriotic Union of Iraqi Kurdistan, too, during the course of successful operations, occupied all the Ba'thist enemy's posts along the Kirkuk-Kuysanjaq highway, including two headquarters of a Mojahedin-e Khalq splinter group. During these operations 15 Iraqi mercenaries were killed and 19 were captured, and quantities of arms, ammunition, radio sets, and vehicles were also taken as booty by the Kurdish Peshmergas.

As a result of an ambush near the hamlet of Daratuwa, near Irbil, a military vehicle was set ablaze and two of its passengers were killed and one was wounded. Similarly, another vehicle on the [word indistinct] main highway was destroyed by the Patriotic Union of Iraqi Kurdistan. They also recently succeeded in capturing seven Ba'thist mercenaries.